

Name: **Cyclone Rim South WY-030-25N96W15-2012**

FORM 1

Documentation of BLM Wilderness Inventory Findings on Record

1. Is there existing BLM wilderness inventory information on all or part of this area?

No _____ Yes _____ X _____ (if yes, and if more than one area is within the area, list the names of those areas):

a) Inventory Source: ___1979 Cyclone Rim Inventory WY-030-405_____

b) Inventory Area Name(s)/Number(s): _ ___1979 Cyclone Rim Inventory WY-030-405_____

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): ___ Bureau of Land Management Wyoming Wilderness Review Serial No. 66700 _____

d) BLM District (s)/Field Office(s): ___ High Desert District/Rawlins Field Office

2. BLM Inventory Finds on Record:

Existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics (if more than one BLM inventory area is associated with the area, list each area and answer each question individually for each inventory area):

Inventory Source: M:\gis_workareas\Recreation\WSA\LandWilderCharc1979

Area #/Name	Sufficient Size? Yes/No (acres)	Naturalness? Yes/No	Outstanding Solitude? Yes/No	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Yes/No	Supplemental Values? Yes/No
Cyclone Rim	Yes (38,000 acres)	Yes, but only portion of area	N/A	N/A	N/A

FORM 2

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

a. Area Number/Name: **Cyclone Rim South WY-030-25N96W15-2012** Acreage: **6,896.36 acres**

(1) Is the area of sufficient size?

Yes ☐ X ☒ No ☐ ☐

Describe the boundaries of the area (roads, property lines, etc.). If the area meets one of the exceptions to the size criterion, check “Yes” and describe the exception. If more than one inventory area is involved, list the acres in each and evaluate each area/sub-area separately. In completing steps (1) – (5), use additional space as necessary.

The unit is bound on the northeast by the Rawlins Field Office boundary. The unit is bound on the south and west by BLM Road 3214, a.k.a. Rocky Crossing Rd. The unit is bound on the north by the Plains Pipeline.

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT CONDITIONS: (Include acreage, land ownership, location, topography, vegetation and summary of the major human uses/activities)

The Cyclone Rim South Unit under consideration is 6896.36 acres of BLM public land. The topography consists, primarily, of rolling prairie, buttes, hills, and drainages created by runoff from Cyclone Rim which drains into the Stratton Lakes. Elevation ranges from 6800 feet on the hilltops above the drainages to 6,700 feet at the bottom of the drainages. The dominant vegetation cover is mountain big sagebrush on the slopes and uplands of the unit and wet meadow cover along creeks and draws. The primary land use is livestock grazing. The primary, dispersed recreational activity in the area is hunting. The unit contains the following townships:

TOWNSHIP	RANGE	SECTION	TOWNSHIP	RANGE	SECTION
t25n	r96w	15	t25n	r96w	3
t25n	r96w	16	t25n	r96w	4
t25n	r96w	17	t26n	r95w	34
t25n	r96w	18	t26n	r95w	33
t25n	r96w	11	t26n	r95w	32
t25n	r96w	10	t26n	r95w	31
t25n	r96w	9	t26n	r96w	36
t25n	r96w	8	t26n	r96w	35
t25n	r95w	4	t26n	r95w	27
t25n	r95w	5	t26n	r95w	28
t25n	r95w	6	t26n	r95w	29
t25n	r96w	1	t26n	r95w	30
t25n	r96w	2			

(2) Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐

Description: The 11.24 miles of primitive routes (i.e., unimproved roads and two-track trails) detract from the unit's naturalness. Examples of these primitive routes roads are demonstrated in Photo 3 and locations are indicated in the unit map. When hiking across the Cyclone Rim South Unit, the casual observer cannot escape the constant view of primitive routes and well access roads. These primitive routes create noticeable linear intrusions and disturbances that interrupt the experience of any wilderness character briefly encountered in areas untrammelled by the works of man.

The Cyclone Rim South Unit also contains three substantially noticeable, man-made reservoirs. These reservoirs are borrow pits impounded on all sides with rectangular dike walls (see photos 1-2 and 6). When the casual observer encounters these earthen impoundments, the linear and textual contrast on the landscape attracts the attention of the observer to this obvious man-made modification constructed with mechanized equipment.

The casual observer is often attracted to bodies of water while hiking. Water adds interest and diversity to the landscape. When arriving at any of the three reservoirs, the casual observer would notice that these are not natural lakes and that they have encountered an impounded, muddy borrow pit. The hiker seeking refreshment from clean water, would quickly notice that this "reservoir" is designed for cattle operations where the water is unfit for human consumption or swimming. The casual observer would encounter a similar experience when seeking to replenish water supplies from other wells and reservoirs within this unit. The numerous range improvements, including the three reservoirs, .74 miles of fence, and one water well (equipped with solar panels and tanks), were developed, primarily, for commercial grazing operations. These improvements give the casual observer a perception that they are visitors to a cattle range rather than a wilderness untrammelled by the works of man. While the presence of cattle is compatible with a natural landscape for wilderness inventory purposes, the noticeable presence of numerous grazing-related developments in this unit is not.

In sum, the cumulative impacts on naturalness including the numerous primitive routes and permanent range improvements have impaired the naturalness in the Cyclone Rim South Unit to a level that is incompatible with the definitions of wilderness provided in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (incorporated in FLPMA 1976):

A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this Act an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation;

(3) has at least five thousand acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.

(3) Does the area or the remainder of the area (if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☒

Description:

(4) Does the area or the remainder of the area (if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☒

Description:

(5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational scenic or historical value)?

Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☒

Description:

Summary of Analysis

Area Name and/or Number: Cyclone Rim South WY-030-25N96W15-2012

Summary

Results of analysis:

1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? ☒ Yes ☐ No
2. Does the area appear to be natural? ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities of solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A
4. Does the area have supplemental values? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

Check one:

_____ The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as Land with Wilderness Characteristics (LWC).

___X___ The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

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Team members:

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Date: _____